

MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Centennial Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Bullock County, Ala.,

October 15th and 16th, 1896.

OFFICERS:

GEORGE WILLIAMS.....MODERATOR.
F. E. TOMPKINS.....CLERK.
B. T. ELY.....TREASURER.

The next session of the Association will be held with Hardaway
Baptist Church, Macon County, Ala., commencing on
Thursday before the third Sunday in October, 1897.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.:
ALABAMA PRINTING COMPANY.
1896

MINUTES.

The Centennial Association convened with Mount Zion church, Bullock county, in Twenty-first Annual Session, at 11 o'clock a. m., Thursday, Oct. 15th, 1896.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by the appointee, Elder A. E. Pinckard, text, Matt. 27:46, "My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

EVENING SESSION—2 O'CLOCK.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, George Williams.

After singing and prayer by Elder M. N. Eley, the letters from the churches were handed in and read by Elders A. E. Pinckard and M. P. Reynolds, and the names of delegates were enrolled as follows:

Aberfoil—W. R. King, J. W. Courson and F. O. Bickley.

Fairview—John Foreman and Elder B. Broome.

Greenwood—W. C. Hufham, C. S. Orum and O. Powell.

Hardaway—J. D. Brooks and M. J. Smith.

Indian Creek—M. B. Phillips, J. S. Finlayson, T. O. Smith, T. M. Thomas and R. E. Cope.

Loflin—L. W. Barron and C. Brabham.

Liberty—James Bates, John Powell, Henry Cooper, Tom Waters and M. F. McClendon.

Macedonia—L. A. Mallory, P. F. Rottan and W. A. May.

Midway—J. P. Downing.

Mount Carmel—J. E. Jenkins, James Wilson and J. P. Rottan.

Mount Pleasant—H. W. Griggs, O. Browder and Calvin Griggs.

Mount Zion—John English, J. H. Cogdell, V. H. Tillery and J. H. Head.

Perote—E. W. Stark, T. B. Miles, J. R. McDowell, J. P. Davis and F. B. Miles.

Sardis—Freeman Reese, J. L. Childs and J. F. Martin.

Union Springs—Elders E. W. Marshal and M. N. Eley, and George Williams, T. M. Gholston, B. T. Eley and J. M. Ellis.

On motion of Elder B. Broome, the Clerk was instructed to cast the ballot for the present officers for re-election, viz: George Williams, Moderator; B. T. Eley, Treasurer, and F. E. Tompkins, Clerk. The vote having been cast, they were declared elected.

The names of Correspondents and Agents were enrolled as follows:

Cababa Association—Elder A. R. Hardy, Agent State Board for Greensboro church.

Eufaula Association—Elder M. P. Reynolds, Agent Howard College; and Elder H. R. Schramm, Agent Alabama Baptist, Foreign Mission Board and Orphans' Home.

Mulberry Association—T. G. Williams.

Salem Association—Elders J. M. Loflin, D. B. Mills, B. P. Floyd and J. H. Tillery.

Mobile Association—Elder J. W. Dossett.

Troy Association—Elders A. B. Campbell and S. O. Y. Ray, Agents State Mission Board.

The Moderator appointed T. F. Davis, H. R. Lewis and the pastor and delegates of Mount Zion church a committee on Religious Exercises.

Hours of meeting and adjourning were adopted as follows: Meet at 9 o'clock a. m., adjourn at 11 o'clock for preaching; and meet at 2 o'clock p. m., and adjourn at pleasure.

The Executive Committee reported and the report was received.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee met on the 11th of September to consider an application from Fairview church for aid to pay its pastor for services rendered. Said application asked your committee to recommend that the State Board supplement to the amount of fifty dollars. After consultation with some of the members of Fairview church, who were present, your committee thought it best to lay the application before your body. We herewith append said application.

M. N. ELEY, Ch'n.

On motion the request from Fairview church was referred to Committee on State of the Churches and Associational Field.

A request from Mount Pleasant church, for seventy-five dollars, was referred to same committee.

At the request of Mount Pleasant church it was granted a letter of dismission, for the purpose of joining the Troy Association.

The Committee on State Missions reported, and, after a short discussion, further action on report was deferred until 9 o'clock to-morrow.

Committee on Religious Exercises reported that Elder A. B. Campbell will preach at 11 o'clock a. m. to-morrow.

Sang a hymn, benediction by Elder M. P. Reynolds, and adjourned.

FRIDAY—MORNING SESSION, 9 O'CLOCK.

Religious exercises conducted by Elder A. R. Hardy.

Minutes of yesterday's proceedings were read and adopted

The Moderator announced the special committees:

On Finance—F. O. Bickley, J. H. Cogdell and J. D. Brooks.

On Documents—L. W. Barron, C. S. Orum and J. S. Finlayson.

On Nominations—M. J. Smith, M. B. Phillips and J. E. Jenkins.

Auditing Committee—J. P. Downing, C. Brabham and A. P. Bates.

At 9:30 o'clock, the hour for discussion of report on State Missions, the discussion was resumed by Elder A. R. Hardy.

A collection was taken for Greensboro church, in cash and pledges, amounting to \$75 00, as follows: Fairview church, \$2.50, pledge; Greenwood church, \$10.00, pledge; Hardaway church, \$5.00, pledge; Indian Creek church, \$5.00, cash; Loflin church, \$10.00, pledge; Midway church, \$5 00 pledge; Mount Carmel church, \$5.00, pledge; Mount Pleasant church, \$2 50, pledge; Mount Zion church, \$10.00, pledge; Perote church, \$10 00, pledge; Sardis church, \$10.00, pledge; total, \$75.00.

It was requested by Elder Hardy that the churches redeem the pledges by Jan. 1st, 1897.

The further discussion of the report was deferred until the afternoon session.

Adjourned for preaching.

Elder A. B. Campbell preached. Text, Phil. 1:27, "Only let your conversation be as it becometh the Gospel of Christ."

EVENING SESSION, 2 O'CLOCK.

The report on Home Missions was read.

On motion the further discussion of the report on Missions was deferred until 10 o'clock to-morrow.

The report on Education was read and discussed.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Education is essential to success in any of the diversified vocations of life. The attorney, who would stand before a jury in defense of his client without preparation, would fail in his attempt. The physician who would attempt to minister to the relief of the suffering, without a knowledge of his profession, would be denounced as a fraud, and so with the teachers who could enter the school room, to train the untutored mind in the science of literature and art, without a knowledge of the same himself. Then how infinitely more important for the man who would assume the highest calling in life, (the teaching of the holy principles and doctrines

of the religion of our Savior) should be prepared for this sacred duty. The Allwise Creator has never placed on this earth a human being for whom he had no use, man was created for God's glory and service, while all men are not intended to act in the same sphere, the humblest duty is important in its place, the man who fails to render his Creator *some* service fails to meet the demands of his creation, and will fail to reap the reward of a servant in the world to come. In our late civil war all men of a certain age were required to enter the actual service of the army, and those who were unwilling to do so, were allowed a substitute. So it is in the great spiritual crusade against sin, a great many members of the church refuse to assume the public service of the church, these may be excused by paying liberally to educate some one who is willing to do so, it is equally as unreasonable to expect a man to perform our daily duties in life as to perform our spiritual duties without remuneration. We have a great many young men who possess all the elements of manhood, but for the want of education and polish, are like the sparkling diamond, which lies buried in obscurity, fails to reflect its beauty and brightness until it is burnished and polished for use, it may then make its way into the glittering constellation of a royal crown. So many a young man with brilliant intellect, lost in obscurity, by education might be made to stand out like a beacon light to point the weary wanderer home. We have at least one case in point familiar to us all, in the person of our late immortal Renfro, who at the age of 21 was unacquainted with letters but after being educated by the church took his position among the towering intellects of Alabama, and though his voice has been hushed in the slumbers of death, his *influence* will sweep on down the corridors of time, till it breaks on the shores of eternity, which alone can reveal it in all its vast magnitude. The harvest is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Let us then send more laborers into the field, by sending our young men to Howard College, and to the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky., institutions that command our support, on account of their efficiency and their influence in equipping young men for the work to which God has called them.

Respectfully submitted,

T. B. MILES, Ch'n.

The following amounts were pledged for Howard College: Mount Carmel church, \$5.00; Macedonia church, \$2.50, and E. W. Starke, \$5.00.

The report was then adopted.

On motion the churches of this Association were requested to pay \$100.00 to the support of the evangelistic work of the State Board.

The Clerk was instructed to apportion that amount to the churches in proportion to membership. Apportionment as follows: Aberfoil, \$2.80; Fairview, \$3.90; Greenwood, \$4.80; Hardaway, \$5.30; Indian Creek, \$9.70; Lofin, \$6.00; Liberty, \$6.30; Macedonia, \$5.40; Midway, \$4.80; Mount Carmel, \$7.10; Mount Zion, \$11.20; Perote, \$4.60; Sardis, \$3.20; Union Springs, \$24.90. Total, \$100.00.

The Committee on Religious Exercises reported that Elder B. Broome, the appointee, will preach the Doctrinal Sermon at 11 o'clock to-morrow, and that Elder E. W. Marshal will preach the Missionary Sermon at 11 o'clock Sunday.

The report on Foreign Missions was read, and Elder H. R. Schramm, who expected to leave, was allowed the floor, after which the body adjourned.

SATURDAY—9 O'CLOCK A. M.

Religious exercises were conducted by Elder A. E. Pinckard.

Minutes of yesterday's proceedings were read and adopted.

The reports on Foreign, Home and State Missions were adopted.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Christians Mission is work among those who are destitute of the religion of Jesus Christ. Foreign Missions is such work in foreign lands. The foreign lands that Southern Baptists are working in, are divided into pagan and

papal, the pagan lands are Japan, China and Africa, the papal are Italy, Mexico, Brazil and Cuba. All of which are under one Foreign Mission Board, located at Richmond, Va., except Cuba. In these various fields there are about 90 missionaries and 70 native helpers. During last year these missionaries baptized over 700 converts. The outlook is bright, but funds are scarce. We can not only not send out more missionaries, but will have to recall some who are on the field unless help comes speedily. The debt of our Foreign Board in May was over \$30,000 00 and though great efforts have been made since, the debt continues to grow. Our people have the money, men and women want to go, the heathen are dying, our orders are to go make disciples of the nations. May God help us to rise to a sense of our obligation to God and to the perishing of earth, and no longer to them "the lamp of life deny." We recommend: First, that pastors preach on missions; second, that regular collections be taken for the same; third, that the pastors take, and urge their members to take Foreign Mission Journals.

W. R. COGDALL, Ch'n.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

BRO. MODERATOR: We, your committee on Home Missions, beg to report: Every Baptist in this God-favored land of ours should be interested in Home Missions. If the gospel is to be preached in different parts of our own South land, which are destitute, then God expects the Baptists of the South to take part, at least in this great work. Real patriotism should burn in every Baptist's heart in Alabama, and other Southern States, and this should fill us with zeal in the work of evangelizing our own God-favored country. Texas alone could use hundreds of thousands of dollars within her own bounds. Some one recently said that until last year there was only one Bohemian convert in Texas, now there are 400,000 of them in that State alone. If Bohemians are so exceedingly zealous about their doctrines, what should Baptists, who hold to the pure, simple gospel of Christ, do towards spreading the glad tidings of great joy? Brethren, now is the important time for us! Texas alone could employ at least fifty missionaries and leave some territory unoccupied. We find from a recent statement from Dr. I. T. Tichenor, Secretary of our Home Board, that they had in the field last year 411 missionaries, who preached 53,000 sermons, and baptized 5,617 converts, organized 372 Sunday Schools, composed of 12,635 teachers and pupils. The glorious work Bro. A. J. Diaz and others are doing in Cuba should not only attract our attention, but should fill us with thankfulness to God. We regret that the work there is suspended for awhile because of the war between Cuba and Spain.

J. E. JENKINS.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

The State Board of Missions is composed of twenty members, who reside in the towns of Montgomery, Selma, Dothan, Talladega, Columbia, Birmingham, Opelika, Jackson, Benton, Clayton, Troy, Mobile and Huntsville. Thus all parts of the State are represented, excepting the southwest and northeast. The members of the Board serve without pay. The corresponding secretary and the book keeper are paid. The headquarters of the Board are at Montgomery. The Board has charge of all our State Mission, Colportage and Benevolent work, and the duty is laid upon it of making collections for Ministerial Education and for Home and Foreign Missions. The Board can do little without the co-operation of pastors and people. If the Baptists of the State withhold their money and sympathy, the Board is powerless and also useless. Our State Mission work is not in good condition. The reason is that a large number of Baptists individually, and churches and associations as organized bodies, have in great measure ceased to contribute to and co-operate with the Board in the work it was appointed to do. Perhaps it would not be profitable for this report to discuss the causes of the withdrawal of support from the Board. That belongs to the past. The fact is, that the cause of Christ as represented by Baptists is languishing throughout the State; and as the State Board of Missions is an important and necessary agency through which we do the Master's work, our duty is to come to its assistance. We should at once begin to do what

we can to restore the condition of former days, when the voices of evangelists of the State Board were heard within the bounds of a large number of the Associations throughout the State. Less than ten years ago there was harmony and co-operation among us. Evangelist and missionary pastors preached the gospel in the weak churches and destitute places of the State, the Colporter went from house to house with a supply of Bibles and other good books, and our prosperity in the Lord's work attracted attention in other States. But a change came over us. An evil spirit had come among us, one after another churches and associations withdrew from the work with the Board, and most of them ceased to do any mission work at all. Thus it came to pass that new churches that had been organized were left without a nursing mother, and died of starvation in their infancy, old churches, that had become weak by death and removals were left to die of weakness; and the destitute places were covered again with briars and brambles; only here and there an Association employed a missionary, and often for only a part of his time. Young preachers without education or money have asked for help in equipping themselves for efficient service to the Master. The Board encouraged many of them to attend school and became responsible for the expense, relying on the brethren to pay it. But the brethren did not pay, and the Board found itself in debt for Ministerial Education. It is also in debt in other departments. The Board has now only two evangelists, Rev. A. E. Burns in a part of North Alabama; and Rev. S. O. Y. Ray is at work in South and Southeast Alabama. The State Convention authorized the Board to appoint others, but it has not felt assured that they would be supported. At least four more evangelists are needed. It would be peculiarly appropriate for the Centennial Association to begin the revival of interest and co-operation in the work of the State Board. Let the revival song be raised here, in the hope that it will be taken up by another and another of our Associations, until the Baptists of the States shall again rally around the agency which they have appointed to lead them in the work of missions. The Board reported to the Convention last year that it had forty-two men employed, fourteen of whom were missionary colporters.

E. A. BROOKS.

The report on Religious Literature was read, discussed and adopted:

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

We, your committee on Religious Literature, beg leave to make the following report: In this day we cannot begin to estimate the power of the press in shaping the minds and lives of our people. This is a power that can be used effectively in advancing the various interests fostered by our denomination, and we can rest assured that the children of our land are going to read literature of some kind, and it is important that we should place in their hands such subject matter as will have a good influence upon them. We deem it especially important that the Alabama Baptist and the Foreign Mission Journal should be in every Baptist home within the bounds of our Association in order that our people may know more about the work in which we are engaged and thus become more interested in the same. And we wish further to commend to the Sunday Schools of our various churches the literature of the Sunday School Board of our Southern Baptist Convention at Nashville, Tenn., J. M. Frost, Cor. Sec'y.

Respectfully submitted, E. W. MARSHALL, Ch'n.

The following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, in the report on education, the Judson was unintentionally omitted;

And, whereas, its high standing as an institution for the education of young ladies commends it especially to the Baptists of Alabama;

And, whereas, God in his providence has removed from it its honored President, Dr. Averett; therefore, be it

Resolved 1. That we sympathize with the Judson in the death of Dr. Averett, and pray that God will bless and guide its officers in the selection of his successor.

2. That we commend the Judson to the Baptists in our bounds as in every respect worthy of their patronage and support. E. W. MARSHALL.

The committee on Religious Exercises reported that Elder S. O. Y. Ray will preach under the arbor and that Elder B. Broome will preach in the house at 11 o'clock to-day.

Committee on Deceased, Aged and Infirm Ministers and Their Families reported, and report was re-committed.

The report on Sunday Schools was read, discussed and adopted:

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We, your committee on Sunday Schools, beg to report as follows: We find only a few of our churches keep up a Sunday School. We are sorry that so few have Sunday Schools, but we note the fact that some which reported the greatest number of accessions are those that have Sunday Schools. This feature of church work has grown to great proportions and it is a great factor in evangelizing the masses. "Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God." God's word enlightens the understanding and the spirit thus illuminates the soul. So then, we earnestly insist that each church in the Centennial Association keep up a Sunday School—let the churches work in this way to advance God's kingdom of grace. We also insist that each church report to the Association at each session the statistics in regard to their schools.

J. H. COGDALL, Ch'n.

The report on Orphans' Home was read, discussed and adopted:

REPORT ON ORPHANS' HOME.

The Baptist Orphanage was permanently located at Evergreen two years ago last November, and the property purchased at a cost of five thousand dollars. The debt has all been paid, and this valuable property is now free from encumbrance. It consists of eighty acres of land lying on Main street, of which thirty acres are in farm, thirty in woods and twenty in pasture. All has been enclosed with substantial woven wire fence, and a commodious barn has been arranged. In this Home has been received 29 boys and 31 girls, and out of it have gone by adoption 8 boys and 11 girls; by apprenticeship, 2 boys. We do not apprentice girls, and only apprentice boys in exceptional cases. The children attend the Agricultural School, and most of them are doing well. They all attend Sunday School and church, and are under firm, steady, loving control in the Orphanage. Eight of them have been baptized. They have more applications to take children than they can approve for want of room. They are in pressing need of a cook room, a laundry room, a dining room, and since the terrible scourge of measles through which they have just passed we find that they greatly need a sick room. Will not the friends of the institution provide the means for the addition of these much needed appliances? Brethren, shall we undertake to make these much needed additions?

Respectfully submitted,

J. S. FINLAYSON,

J. L. BROOKS, Chairman.

Treasurer's report was read and referred to auditing committee. Adjourned for preaching.

Elder B. Broome preached in the house. Text, Eph. 1:4,5. Elder S. O. Y. Ray preached under the arbor. Text, 1st Cor. 15:29.

EVENING SESSION, 2 O'CLOCK.

Sang a hymn, after which the body proceeded to the transaction of business.

The report on State of the Churches and Associational Field was read and adopted.

REPORT ON STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

Your committee on State of the Churches and Associational Field, make the following report: The spirit of the Lord has been manifested in the

churches during the year with some power, in performing his office work of convicting and converting sinners to Christ, and of building up the churches in a holier faith and more godly practice of living. We find that some churches are supporting their pastor only partly, and some are asking aid from this Association to help pay their pastor; we find some of these churches only paying their pastor about thirty-five cents per member, we find two churches asking for help, but doing very little to the support of their pastor. We have 15 churches in our Association who pay in the aggregate for Home, Foreign and State Missions a very small amount, find only a few churches with Sunday School and prayer meeting. Owing to our limited time to make a full report of different institutions who receive our contribution, we can say that our churches are not what they should be in paying both for pastor's salary and mission purposes.

Respectfully submitted, W. C. HUFHAM, Ch'n.

The report on Deceased, Aged and Infirm Ministers and their families was re-read and adopted.

REPORT ON DECEASED, AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS.

Your committee on Deceased, Aged and Infirm Ministers and their Families report as follows: We have lost by death Elder G. W. Dalby. We have been informed that our aged brother, Elder Chas. Crawley, is in need of aid. We recommend that the churches of the Association be requested to collect some funds for him and send them to him immediately.

J. P. DOWNING,

J. L. CHILDS,

J. F. MARTIN,

Committee.

The report on Temperance was read, discussed and adopted.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Temperance is of Bible origin. The Scriptures say be ye temperate in all things. So it is wrong to eat too much, to sleep too much, to work too much, to read too much, and to drink too much such as coffee, tea, milk and water, but the greatest evil in our land is caused by the drinking of liquor. Therefore the report should be on the abstinence from drinking liquor.

The moderate drinker is the curse of the land, as well as of the church, when a man takes one drink he is that much drunk, and each additional drink makes him drunker. No church members ought to use liquor as a beverage; and if they do the church ought to withdraw fellowship from them, for it is offensive to some of the members; and Paul says, if eating meat cause my brother to offend, I will eat no more meat while the world stands. So this member who drinks liquor is in disorder and the Bible says, withdraw from those who walk disorderly, so no church is doing her Christian duty to retain a drinker of liquor, as a beverage, in her membership. For a person need not join the church in order to get to drink; he can drink in the world. The drink evil is increasing in its magnitude. The statistics of the last report given on the liquor traffic (and all were not given) were two billion two hundred million dollars, besides the domestic wines and cider, this is the amount of money spent. But dollars and cents can't measure this great evil. Look at the virtue that has been taken, the reputations that have been injured, the honesty that has been marred, the lives that have been blighted, the homes that have been saddened, the constitutions that have been wrecked, the orphans that have been made, the wives that have been robbed of their husbands, the poor houses that have been built, the penitentiaries and jails that have been opened, the criminal courts that have been held, and the greatest evil of all, the souls that have been eternally lost by this drink evil.

Are these not enough facts to convince any Christian that it should be exterminated from our land. Let us all pray that God will remove this evil from our land. Domestic distilling in our homes is a great evil.

C. W. SELLERS, Ch'n.

The report on Documents was read and amended, by referring the request of Mount Pleasant church for aid to the Executive Committee.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

We your Committee on Documents find Fairview church has asked for aid from your body for the support of their pastor for the past year. We recommend the application be referred back to your Executive Committee. We also find that Mount Pleasant has asked for aid, but has failed to comply with the rules adopted by your body in 1893. We also find that Macedonia church has asked a query: What steps shall be taken with members failing to pay their pastor? We recommend the same to your body for discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

L. W. BARRON,
J. S. FINLAYSON,
C. S. ORUM,
Committee.

The report on Nominations was read and adopted.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

Your committee on Nominations beg leave to report the following:

1. We recommend that the next session of this body be held with Hardaway church, Macon County, commencing on Thursday before the 3rd Sunday in October, 1897.

2. That Elder E. W. Marshall preach the introductory sermon.

3. That Elder A. E. Pinckard preach the doctrinal sermon.

4. That Elder E. W. Marshall be the delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention, Elder B. Broome alternate

5. That J. F. Martin, W. C. Hufham, Geo. Williams, J. H. Cogdell, Elder J. A. Jenkins, Jas. Jones, G. J. Pierce, E. A. Brooks, J. T. Davis and W. R. King be the delegates to the Baptist State Convention.

M. J. SMITH,
M. B. PHILLIPS,
J. E. JENKINS,
Committee.

On motion, Elder S. O. Y. Ray was requested to preach the Missionary Sermon at the next session of the body.

On motion, the Clerk was instructed to cast the ballot for the present Executive Committee for re-election. The ballot having been cast they were declared elected as follows: Elders M. N. Eley and E. W. Marshall and F. O. Bickley, T. M. Gholston, W. A. Powell and J. E. Jenkins.

Correspondents were returned as follows:

Eufaula Association—W. A. Mallory.

Any member of this body, who should visit any other Association was authorized to represent this Association.

On motion, Elder M. N. Eley, Geo. Williams and J. M. Ellis requested to prepare suitable resolutions in regard to the death of Elder G. W. Dalby, and send them to the Clerk for publication in the minutes.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT OF THE CENTENNIAL ASSOCIATION.

Whereas, It has pleased our Heavenly Father to remove from our number our beloved brother, Rev. G. W. Dalby, since our last Association;

Therefore, Resolved, That the Centennial Association has lost an able counsellor; the churches a noble pattern of Christianity; the ministry a deeply pious and consecrated minister.

2. That we, as an association, extend to the bereaved family our sincere sympathy.

3. That these resolutions be spread upon the minutes, and copy of the same be sent to the family.

M. N. ELY,
GEORGE WILLIAMS,
J. M. ELLIS,
Committee.

Resolution of thanks adopted as follows:

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be tendered to the members of this church and community for the hospitality extended to it during the session.

The Moderator requested Elder J. W. Dossett to deliver a Sunday School address to-morrow at 10 o'clock a. m.

Elder S. O. Y. Ray, at the request of the Moderator, addressed the body on the query sent up from Macedonia church, viz: What steps should a church take with members who fail to pay their pastor?

The Moderator announced the Standing Committees as follows :

On Foreign Missions—J. P. Downing, W. A. Powell and T. F. Davis.

On Home Missions—A. W. Beverley, D. A. Caylor and J. E. Chance.

On State Missions—J. L. Childs, L. W. Barron and Jno. Foreman.

On Education—Elder E. W. Marshall, J. D. Brooks and F. O. Bickley.

On Religious Literature—Elder B. Broome, W. A. May and Rob't West.

On Deceased, Aged and Infirm Ministers and their Families—W. C. Huffman, A. C. Davis and W. A. Martin.

On Sunday Schools—B. T. Eley, E. A. Brooks and J. S. Finlayson.

On State of the Churches and Associational Field—J. E. Jenkins, Jas. Bates, Sr., and C. S. Orum.

On Temperance—T. B. Miles, T. M. Gholston and W. P. Carter.

On Orphans' Home—W. R. Cogdell, L. A. Mallory and C. B. Kennon.

The meeting of the Western District of this Association will be held with Mt. Carmel church; and the meeting of the Eastern with Indian Creek church. The times and programmes to be arranged by those churches.

The report on Finance was read and referred to Auditing Committee

On motion, the Treasurer was instructed to pay the Clerk ten dollars for his services.

REPORT OF AUDITING COMMITTEE.

We have carefully examined the Finance and Treasurer's report and recommend that they be received. J. P. DOWNING, Chairman.

REPORT OF TREASURER.

B. T. ELEY, Treasurer, *In account with Centennial Association.*

1895.	DR.	
Oct. 16.	To balance as per last report.....	\$ 2 86
20.	To am't from Finance Committee.....	105 80
	CR.	
Oct. 19.	By am't paid F. E. Tompkins, Clerk—V. 1.....	10 00
	Orphans' Home—V. 2.....	4 90
	Foreign Missions—V. 3.....	18 37
	Home Missions—V. 3.....	14 52
	State Missions—V. 3.....	41 45
Dec. 4.	Minutes of Association—V. 4.....	13 80
	By balance.....	5 62
		<hr/>
		\$108 66—\$108 66
1896.		
Oct. 15.	To balance on hand.....	\$ 5 62

Above I hand you my Ninth Annual report of all monies received and disbursed by me since last report.

Respectfully submitted,

To Centennial Association,

Assembled at Mt. Zion Church,

Bullock County, Ala.

B. T. ELEY,
Treas'r Centennial Ass'n.

After benediction by Elder E. W. Marshall the body adjourned, to meet with Hardaway church, Macon county, on Thursday before the third Sunday in October, 1897.

GEO. WILLIAMS, Moderator.

F. E. TOMPKINS, Clerk.

Elder M. N. Eley preached under the arbor Saturday evening. Text, 104th Ps. 34th v. Elder E. W. Marshall preached the Missionary Sermon, Sunday, 11 o'clock A. M. Text, 2d Cor. 8:7. Elder Dossett also preached at 11 o'clock on Sunday under the arbor.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

M. N. Eley—Union Springs.
J. O. Hixson—Union Springs.
E. W. Marshall—Union Springs.
Charles Crawley—Indian.
H. W. Griggs—Linwood.
B. Broome—Pickett
J. A. Jenkins—Mt. Hilliard (at the Howard.)

STATISTICS OF CENTENNIAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1896.

CHURCHES.	COUNTY.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S POST OFFICE	Membership last Reported.....	Increase	Decrease	Present Membership..	Sunday School Officers and Teachers	Sunday School Pupils	S. S. SUPERINTENDENT'S NAME AND P. O. ADDRESS.	Preaching Sabbaths....	Repos'ts Prayer Me'ting	Reports Revival.....
Aberfo'ill.....	Bullock..	J A Jenkins.	F O Bickley	Inverness..	32	..	By Death.....	28	..	6	40 H J McGilvery, Indian.....	3	1	1
Fairview.....	"	B Broome.	W T Penn	Fine Grove..	42	2	By Erasure	39	..	6	..	1	1	1
Greenwood.....	"	J M Lodin.	W C Hufham	Fitzpatrick's.	56	1	By Exclusion.....	1	..	6	..	4	1	1
Hardaway.....	Macon.	W N Hunter.	C A Davis	Hardaway..	53	1	By Letter	6	..	7	40 C A Davis, Hardaway	3	1	1
Indian Creek.....	Bullock..	G W Harrison.	G A Norris	Perote.....	98	1	By Restoration.....	10	..	58	50 R E Cope, Indian.....	2	1	1
Lodin.....	Pike.	G W Harrison.	L A Barron	Josie.....	62	1	By Voucher ..	1	..	7	27 E A Brooks, Perote.....	1	1	1
Liberty.....	Bullock..	G W Harrison.	T M Hough	Mascotte	56	4	By Letter.....	8	..	6	50 W A Powell, Post Oak..	4	1	1
Macedonia.....	"	J A Jenkins.	W A C May	Mt. Hilliard	54	..	By Baptism.....	..	..	6	..	1	1	1
Midway.....	Montg'mry	M P Reynolds.	W L O'Neil	Shopton ..	49	2	..	48	..	..	..	1	1	1
Mt. Carmel.....	Bullock..	A E Pinckard.	Jas Jones	Shopton ..	72	3	..	71	..	6	54 J B Cox, Linwood	3	1	1
Mt. Pleasant.....	Pike.	A E Pinckard	H Williams	Linwood ..	29	18	..	49	..	6	..	2	1	1
Mt. Zion.....	Bullock..	B Broome.	Jas Bates, Jr.	Inverness..	108	7	..	112	..	6	E W Stark, Perote.....	3	1	1
Perote.....	"	M P Reynolds.	J T Davis.	Perote.....	50	10	..	40	..	6	35 R J Prince, Post Oak	1	1	1
Sardis.....	"	J O Hixson.	J F Martin	Union Spr...	24	15	..	32	..	14	133 B T Eley, Union Springs..	1	1	1
Union Spring ..	"	E W Marshall.	Geo Williams.	Union Spr...	210	15	..	227	..	..	..	1,2,3,4	1	1
Total .....	..	..	..	..	995	54	49	73	58	429	..	..	..	..

Mt. Pleasant church dismissed to unite with Troy Association.

